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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/686,447	10/10/2000	Carolyn Faour	0544MH-40015	5064
53184	7590	09/19/2005	EXAMINER	
i2 TECHNOLOGIES US, INC. ONE i2 PLACE, 11701 LUNA ROAD DALLAS, TX 75234			SHAH, NILESH R	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2195	

DATE MAILED: 09/19/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No. 09/686,447 Examiner Nilesh Shah	Applicant(s) FAOUR ET AL.	
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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 06 July 2005.
- 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-3,5-7,9-15 and 17-35 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1-3,5-7,9-15 and 17-35 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) All b) Some * c) None of:
1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____. | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____. |
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DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1 -3, 5-7, 9-15, 17-35 are presented for examination.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

3. Claims 1 -3, 5-7, 9-15, 17-35 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Bowman-Amuah (6,636,242)
4. As per claim 1, Bowman-Amuah teaches a method for handling jobs within a computer system, comprising:

in respond to a request for a job to be performed, generating a item representing the job to be performed, the work item comprising, a category, a state, a change history, and a description of the job represented by the work item, the job comprising a customer-generated request (col. 61 line 40- col. 62 line 45; col. 101 lines 49-65; col. 109 lines 45-60; col. 110 line 57-col. 111 line 45);

placing the work item into a particular queue in a plurality of queues based at least in part on the category of the work item, each queue in the plurality of queues being for storing work items representing jobs to be performed (col. 117 lines 53-60; col. 61 lines 40-50; col. 70 lines 4-17);

in turn, opening the work item in the particular queue in response to a request from a business process, and executing one or more tasks on the work item, each task being for resolving at least a portion of the job represented by the work item by resolving at least a portion of the customer-generated request (col. 101 lines 49-65; col. 109 lines 45-60; col. 110 line 57-col. 111 line 45; col. 70 lines 4-17; col. 61 line 40- col. 62 line 45); after executing the one or more tasks on the work item modifying the state of the work item in response to execution of the one or more tasks (fig 191, element 19106; col. 101 line 50- col. 102 line 40; col. 117 lines 53-60; col. 61 line 40- col. 62 line 45); updating the change history of the work item in response to execution of the one or more tasks (fig 191, element 19106; col. 101 line 50- col. 102 line 40; col. 117 lines 53-60); if the job represented by the work item is complete, archiving the work item (col. 69 lines 2-16; col. 61 line 40- col. 62 line 45); and if the job represented by the work item is not yet complete, placing the work item into queue one of the plurality of queues based at least in part on one or more tasks to be executed on the work item(col. 70 lines 59-61; fig 191, element 19106; col. 101 line 50- col. 102 line 40; col. 117 lines 53-60; col. 61 line 40- col. 62 line 45).

5. As per claim 2, Bowman-Amuah teaches a method wherein the step executing a task of comprises modifying the work item (fig 191, element 19106; col. 101 line 50- col. 102 line 40; col. 117 lines 53-60).

6. As per claim 3, Bowman-Amuah teaches a method wherein executing a task comprises one or more of sending an e-mail to a person(col. 59 lines 45-55); and sending a fax to a person(col. 58 lines 30-55; col. 59 lines 45-55).
7. As per claim 5, Bowman-Amuah teaches a method, wherein executing a task comprises moving the work item to a queue different from its present queue (col. 117 lines 53-60; col. 61 lines 40-50; col. 70 lines 4-17).
8. As per claim 6, Bowman-Amuah teaches a method wherein one or more tasks comprises: invoking one or more composite actions, each of the one or more composite actions including a rule and at least one task to be executed as a result of evaluation of the rule (Fig. 128; fig 131; col. 117 lines 40-51); evaluating the rule for a for each of the one or more composite actions and executing the task corresponding to the evaluation of the rule (col. 117 lines 40-51).
9. As per claim 7, Bowman-Amuah teaches a method wherein the work item further comprises an identification of a party that created the work item (col. 70 lines 59-61; fig 191, element 19106; col. 101 line 50- col. 102 line 40; col. 117 lines 53-60).
10. As per claim 9, Bowman-Amuah teaches a method wherein the work item further cedes comprises a due date for the work item indicating when the job represented by the work item should be resolved (col. 259 lines 4-20).

11. As per claim 10, Bowman-Amuah teaches a method wherein the work item further comprises a current location for the work item, the current location for the work item identifying the queue in which the work item has been placed (col. 117 lines 53-60; col. 61 lines 40-50; col. 70 lines 4-17).
12. Claim 11 is rejected base on the same rejection as claim 1 above.
13. Claim 12 is rejected based on the same rejection as claim 6 above.
14. As per claim 13, Bowman-Amuah teaches a system, wherein the rule evaluates to a value of true or false (fig, 136; col. 205 5-10; col. 254 lines 55-65).
15. As per claim 14, Bowman-Amuah teaches a system further comprising a set of rules to be evaluated if there is no rule to be evaluated (fig, 136; col. 205 5-10; col. 254 lines 55-65).
16. As per claim 15, Bowman-Amuah teaches a system wherein the work items each comprises an identification of a party that created the work item (col. 117 lines 53-60; col. 61 lines 40-50; col. 70 lines 4-17).
17. As per claim 17, Bowman-Amuah teaches a system wherein the work items each item further comprises a due date for the work item indicating when the job represented by the work item should be resolved (col. 259 lines 4-20).

18. As per claim 18, Bowman-Amuah teaches a system wherein the work items each item further comprises a current location for the work item, the current location for the work item identifying the queue in which the work item has been placed (col. 101 lines 49-65; col. 109 lines 45-60; col. 110 line 57-col. 111 line 45).
19. As per claim 19, Bowman-Amuah teaches a method wherein the work item is a computer-implemented object (col. 308 lines 44-48).
20. As per claim 20, Bowman-Amuah teaches a method wherein the business process is automated such that the business process automatically opens the work item in the particular queue (col. 109 lines 45-60; col. 110 line 57-col. 111 line 45).
21. As per claim 21, Bowman-Amuah teaches a method wherein the work item persists until the job represented by the work item is completed (col. 259 lines 4-20).
22. As per claim 22, Bowman-Amuah teaches a method wherein the state of the work item comprises one or more of an open state indicating that the work item is currently opened by a business process and is currently not available to be opened by another business process (col. 70 lines 59-61; fig 191, element 19106; col. 101 line 50- col. 102 line 40; col. 117 lines 53-60); and

a closed state indicating that the work item is waiting in its associated queue for one or more tasks to be performed on the work item by a business process (col. 110 line 57-col. 111 line 45).

23. As per claim 23, Bowman-Amuah teaches a method further comprising providing a plurality of composite actions, each composite action comprising:
a rule for determining an appropriate action to be performed on the work item (col. 117 lines 40-51);

a first set of one or more actions to be performed if the rule evaluates to TRUE (fig, 136; col. 205 5-10; col. 254 lines 55-65).
a second set of one or more actions to be performed if the rule evaluates to FALSE (fig, 136; col. 205 5-10; col. 254 lines 55-65).

and wherein executing one or more tasks on the work item comprises invoking one or more of the plurality of composite actions (col. 117 lines 40-51).

24. As per claim 24, Bowman-Amuah teaches a method, wherein each category is associated with a composite action; and the method further comprises, in response to generating a work item, specifying the category of the work item based on the job represented by the work item, a rule associated with the composite action that is associated with the category of the work item determining the particular queue in which the work item should be placed (col. 101 lines 49-65; col. 109 lines 45-60; col. 110 line 57-col. 111 line 45).

25. As per claim 25, Bowman-Amuah teaches a method wherein the job comprises a customer problem associated with a product or service, the job being completed when the customer's problem is resolved (fig 191, element 19106; col. 101 line 50- col. 102 line 40; col. 117 lines 53-60).
26. Claims 26-28 are rejected based on claims 2, 3, and 5 above.
27. Claims 29-35 are rejected based on claims 19-25 above.

Response to Arguments

28. Applicant's arguments filed 7/6/05 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.
29. In the remarks applicant argue that Bowman-Amuah does not teach a) generating a work item representing the job to be performed, the work item comprising a change history b) placing said work item into a queue based at least in part on the category of the work item c) each queue of the plurality of queues in which a work item can be placed is for storing work items representing jobs to be performed d) updating the change history of the work item e) placing the work item into one of a plurality of queues based at least in part on one or more tasks to be executed on the work item.
30. Examiner respectfully disagrees with applicant remarks.
31. As per point a) Bowman-Amuah teaches generating a work item representing the job to be performed, the work item comprising a change history (col. 61 line 40- col. 62 line 45; col. 101 lines 49-65; col. 109 lines 45-60; col. 110 line 57-col. 111 line 45). Each print job is sent to a queue based on the type of work and if the printer is available.

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32. As per point b) Bowman-Amuah again teaches the each print job is place in a queue for printing (col. 61 line 40- col. 62 line 45; col. 101 lines 49-65; col. 109 lines 45-60; col. 110 line 57-col. 111 line 45).
33. As per point c) Bowman-Amuah teaches use of each queue for storing work items representing jobs to be preformed(col. 101 lines 49-65; col. 109 lines 45-60; col. 110 line 57-col. 111 line 45; col. 70 lines 4-17; col. 61 line 40- col. 62 line 45).
34. As per point d) Bowman-Amuah teaches the use of updating the history (fig 191, element 19106; col. 101 line 50- col. 102 line 40; col. 117 lines 53-60; col. 61 line 40- col. 62 line 45); “Print services can also provide the client with information including print jobs status”.
35. As per point e) each item of work is placed in a queue based at least in part on one or more tasks (col. 101 lines 49-65; col. 109 lines 45-60; col. 110 line 57-col. 111 line 45; col. 70 lines 4-17; col. 61 line 40- col. 62 line 45).

Conclusion

36. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any

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extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

37. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Nilesh Shah whose telephone number is (571)272-3771. The examiner can normally be reached on 9-5. Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the TC 2100 Group receptionist: 571-272-2100

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Meng An can be reached on (571)272-3756. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Nilesh Shah
Examiner
Art Unit 2195

NS

September 6, 2005


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SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100